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January 3, 2005

BRL CC Memo-2005-02

TO: Group Child Care Licensees

FROM: Jill Chase, Director *Jill Chase*  
Bureau of Regulation and Licensing

RE: Revised HFS 46 - Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Centers  
Notification of Information Sessions  
Effective Date: March 1, 2005

I am pleased to send you a copy of the revised Licensing Rules for Group Child Care Centers, HFS 46. The revised rules will be effective March 1, 2005. We appreciate the input of many members of the child care community as we developed and finalized the revisions.

Also enclosed is an announcement of informational sessions designed to provide an overview of the revisions to the rules. These sessions are scheduled for February in various locations around the state. I encourage you to attend one of the informational sessions listed on the enclosed announcement. Space is limited at some locations, so please register soon. You will be able to use the attendance towards meeting your continuing education requirement.

The rule book that is enclosed is a user-friendly version of the rule with helpful appendices. The rule has been revised to address a variety of child safety practices and to reflect statutory changes in the areas of caregiver background checks and Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS) risk reduction measures. Also, the term 'day care center' has been changed to 'child care center.' Changes were made in areas such as reporting requirements, orientation, CPR training and licensing administration.

You may find additional information on the Department's web site at [http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/rl\\_dcfs/INDEX.HTM](http://dhfs.wisconsin.gov/rl_dcfs/INDEX.HTM) regarding rule implementation, new and revised forms, directions to the information sessions and other updates. All licensed child care centers will need to be in compliance with the new rule requirements by March 1, 2005.

Have a happy and healthy New Year, and thank you for the very important work you do in caring for children.